## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10-26-00

In re application of:

Jorg-Thorsten MOHR et al.

Serial No.: 09/640,748

Filed: August 18, 2000

SEP 0 6 2000 0

Group Art Unit: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Examiner

NOT YET ASSIGNED

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING OF DROSPIRENONE (6B, 7B, 15B, 16B-

DIMETHYLENE-3-OXO-17~-PREGN-4-EN-21, 17-CARBOLACTONE, DRSP) AS WELL AS 7~-(3-HYDROXY-1-PROPYL)-6\(\beta\), 7\(\beta\); 15\(\beta\), 16\(\beta\)-DIMETHYLENE-5\(\beta\)-ANDROSTANE-3\(\beta\),5,17\(\beta\)-TRIOL (ZK 92836) AND

6ß, 7ß; 15ß, 16ß-DIMETHYLENE-5ß-HYDROXY-3-OXO-17∝-

ANDROSTANE-21,17-CARBOLACTONE (90965) AS INTERMEDIATE

PRODUCTS OF THE PROCESS

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the accompanying application as follows.

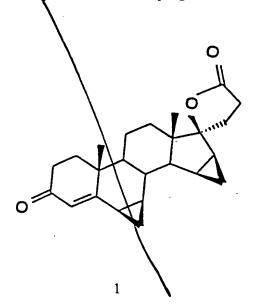
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-3 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 4-7 as follows.

~4.  $6\beta$ ,  $7\beta$ ;  $15\beta$ ,  $16\beta$ -dimethylene-3-oxo- $17\alpha$ -pregn-4-ene-21, 17-carbolactone, at a

purity of at least 98.9%



SCH 1446 C1